CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

Title of publication:	Hash Ending 8F3C2
Other known title(s):	Not stated
OFLC ref:	1000577.000
Medium:	Computer Image File Printout
Publisher:	Not stated
Country of origin:	Not stated
Language:	Not applicable
Applicant:	Commissioner of Police
Classification:	Objectionable.
Descriptive note:	None
Display conditions:	None
Date of entry in Register:	18 May 2010
Date of direction to issue a label:	No direction to issue a label has been issued

Summary of reasons for decision:

The computer image file printout is deemed objectionable because it promotes and supports the exploitation of children for sexual purposes.

The image is a line drawing of a boy engaged in a sexual act. It is a visual representation of sexual exploitation. Its purpose is to titillate or arouse people with a sexual interest in children. Publications such as these encourage viewers to see children as sexually desirable. The effect is to strengthen this sexual interest and encourage the sexual exploitation of vulnerable young children.

The Classification Office has considered the effects of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 on the application of the classification. The classification of this publication interferes with the freedom of expression, but this is an outcome that is consistent with Parliament's intention that publications falling under s3(2) are deemed to be objectionable. The classification is also a reasonable limitation on the freedom of expression that reflects the concern of a free and democratic society to limit the availability of publications that promote and support the exploitation of children for sexual purposes.